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Note (read this!)

I will not be making allegiances since they aren't read, and I would have to make two. Sorry if you like them, but they take to much time (days to weeks). Thanks for reading! I hope you enjoy!

This story may also be a little graphic.

Prologue

"The one with two paths bring strength and love to the clan of the water, but beware of the other half, for he will torment and frost the hearts of the loving," a voice echoed in the wind.

"Wait! I don't understand! Oakheart! What does this mean?" Pebblefrost meowed. He stared around in bewilderment. *Who is the cat with the split paths?* He thought. He ran back to the clan to tell Bramblestar of the omen.

Chapter 1

Wispkit woke up in the comfort of his mother's warm fur. He snuggled closer, craving the warmth. He let out a sigh. His eyelids flickered open. His eyes seeing only black fur.

"Mama?"

"Yes sweetie?"

"Is it cold out?"

"No love. It's very warm, as it always is. You can go out if you like. Snowkit and Ravenkit are already out." He turned to look at his mother. Her light yellow eyes shone with warmth. Her black fur sleek and well groomed, yet warm and comforting.

"Will you come out with me?" She nodded.

"Of course."

"Thanks mama!" He smiled at her. His yellow eyes glowing with joy. They walked out of the sphere like shape of the nursery. It lay high above the forest floor, woven into the branches of the trees. A semi flat surface of twigs, branches, and leaves makes a kits play area. The older cats cling to large branches. A woven basket holds the fish and birds. Several other sphere shapes hung near by. A black kit, a white kit, a tortoiseshell tabby kit, and a brown tabby kit play on the semi flat area.

"Go play with them," his mother told him as she nudged him forward. He stumbled on the fake ground.

"Hi Wispkit!" His sister, Ravenkit, called. His other sister, Snowkit, waved her tail in hello. Tigerkit and Otterkit nodded their heads in greetings. Wispkit shyly nodded to them. He could feel his ear tips getting warm.

"Hi Sootsplash!" Otterkit meowed. Wispkit's mother flicked her tail in greeting. She pushed him with her paw. Wispkit stumbled, regained his balance, and waddled forward. His kit legs short and stubby.

"We're playing Clans. Wanna play?" Tigerkit asked. Her sweet blue eyes shining.

"I'm Ravenstar! They are Ottersplash, Tigerflower, and Snowfrost! You can be Wispfeather! If you want," Ravenkit meowed.

"Sure, but how do you play Clans?" He asked quietly. Otterkit

smiled.

"Clans is where one cat is leader, one deputy, and the rest warriors. You pretend to be a clan, and face different dangers," Otterkit said.

"Alright. Who is deputy?" Wispkit meowed.

"I am!" His sister, Snowkit, yowled happily.

"So what do I do?" He asked.

"You and Ottersplash will go patrolling. It's just walking around flat area," Snowkit meows, whispering the last part to me. Wispkit nod, and turns to fallow Otterkit.

"Look! A jaguar! Attack!" Otterkit meows with fake growl. They race towards a stray stick. Otterkit swats its 'face' while Wispkit jumps on the sticks small back. The other kits soon come to help the two toms. They tackle and play. Soon chasing each other. They occasionally stop for milk, but then race back to play. The suns last rays shine through the leaves.

"Time to go to sleep. We don't want to attract a jaguar or monkey," Sootsplash meowed quite seriously. The kits follow her to their den, still wanting to play. They soon crash. Their little heads resting on mossy beds. Only when the sun appears, do they wake.

Chapter 2

Wispkit woke up. He felt ready and confident. He didn't need his mother anymore. He padded out of the nursery. The early morning light weakly shone through the branches. He breathed in the warm air. Its large amount of moister smoothing his ruffled pelt. He didn't hear Tigerkit walk behind him.

"Hey, Splashkit," she murmured. He was surprised. Was his name Splashkit? He thought it was Wispkit. He pushed the thought away. He liked Splashkit more.

"Hello beautiful," he purred, admiring her lightly striped tortoiseshell coat. Her brilliant baby blue eyes shone. She looked embarrassed. Tigerkit turned her head away bashfully.

"Why should a such sweet flower be embarrassed?" He asked with a purr. She looked at him.

"Because no one has called her beautiful before," she answered. Their eyes locked. Her gentle blue eyes gazed into his light yellow eyes.

"That must be tough, not having your beauty acknowledged," he meowed sympathetically. In truth, he really didn't care. All he wanted is the gorgeous cat to be his mate. He didn't mind they were kits. They would become apprentices in a while, and then she would already be his. No other could steal her from him.

"I guess," she meowed. He was around a moon older than her. She was three moons, he was four. Yet he had never been here. Where he was called Splashkit. Where he felt powerful. Where his small frame didn't bothered him. Never. He liked this place. He wanted to stay here, but as he and Tigerkit made their promise to each other, as they curled up together behind the nursery in a tiny kit sized den they made, as they fell asleep curled around each other, he new he couldn't. He would wake up as Wispkit.

Chapter 3

Wispkit woke with a start. *Is my name Splashkit or Wispkit? Was that a dream? It seemed to real to be one. Where's Tigerkit?* He thought, looking at the sleeping queens and kits. Tigerkit wasn't there. He jumped out of the nursery. Tigerkit was watching birds flying through the early morning sun rays. He padded up to her. He wanted to test to see if it was a dream or not.

"Has some one ever called you beautiful before?" He meowed. His face grew warm, and he licked he brown splotch on his chest in embarrassment as Tigerkit jumped in the air.

"Don't scare me like that!" She yelped, gazing angrily at Wispkit. Her gaze softened as she looked at his frightened yellow eyes. "No, I don't believe so. Why do you ask?" Wispkit turned his head. He felt like fire ants were hitting him all over.

"Cause I think you are," he murmured. He could sense her surprise. She immediately grew all warm. She turned her head the other way. She was just about to look at Wispkit, Wispkit about to do the same, when Otterkit pranced out of the nursery.

"You two are up early! Want to play catch the monkeys?" He asked enthusiastically, not even aware of the tension between the two. Tigerkit and Wispkit both nodded. "You two are the monkeys! I'll give you ten heartbeats!" Otterkit yowled. The two kits ran to the other side of the kit space. Otterkit turned around and ran at them as soon as the got there. The 'monkeys' ran away from Otterkit. Otterkit always trying to get one. Once in a while one was tackled, then they would become the chaser. Soon all five kits were playing, and as the day before, playing till they crashed. Only stopping for food. Wispkit was the last to fall asleep, worrying about his 'dream'.

Chapter 4

Wispkit awoke, feeling confident again. He was now Splashkit. He didn't want to play kit games, and rudely said no when Ravenkit wanted to play clans. He wanted to go talk to the apprentices. He had pleaded to Tigerkit, asking her to come, but she didn't want to. She only came, and came very quickly, when he threatened to be future mates with Berrypaw.

They had talked to Scalepaw, Berrypaw, and Eelpaw about everything apprentices do. Eelpaw even convinced them to try some needle fish. It was way to stringy for Splashkit and Tigerkit. It was barely even a mouthful, but it was horrid non the less.

Tigerkit kept wanting to go play with their siblings, but Splashkit forced her to stay. So they ended up spending the whole day with the apprentices. Only going away when the sky was getting dark.

The apprentices didn't have any duties that day since Scalepaw had twisted his foot, Berrypaw had a hard fall when climbing, and Eelpaw had gotten a thorn stuck in his paw. The medicine cat, Pepplefrost couldn't get it out. Eelpaw eventually tied a piece of needle fish to it, and yanked it out. Tigerkit was grossed out by it. Splashkit just thought it was cool that Eelpaw put the needle fish to use.

Splashkit had slept next to Tigerkit that night. He didn't want her to spend time with any one else. She was his.

Chapter 5

A few moons later

Wispkit woke with a start. He was going to be apprenticed, and was completely used to his other half, Splashkit. He and his sisters were getting apprenticed a half moon late since Bramblestar wanted to have all of the kits be apprenticed at the same time. Berryfall, Eelwhisker, and Scalefur where now available to train them since they had their warrior ceremony a moon ago. Wispkit hoped to get the calm and young Scalefur or the older, wiser Monkeytail.
"Let all cats old enough to climb sit on the branches around me," Bramblestar called. The clan soon gathered, ears pricked. "Today is a special day. Five kits are ready to become apprentices. They'll have only a moon of training on dry ground before the rains come," he meowed while jumping on the kit platform.
"Step forward," he meowed to the five kits. They obeyed. "From this day forward, until you receive your warrior names, you will be know as Ravenpaw, Snowpaw, Wisppaw, Otterpaw, and Tigerpaw. Monkeytail, you have trained many apprentices. I hope you pass all know to Ravenpaw," he meowed. Monkeytail leapt to Ravenpaw, and they bowed to each other, promising to do their best.
"Branchclimber, train Snowpaw hard. I know you will pass your agility and balance to her," Bramblestar meowed. Branchclimber and Snowpaw bowed to each other when Branchclimber reached the platform.
"Scalefur, I know you are young, but you are ready for Wisppaw." Wisppaw felt excitement bubble in him. Scalefur was his mentor! Scalefur bounded forward to bow to him. Wisppaw almost forgot to bow in his excitement.
"Slothclaw, pass your patience and gentleness to Tigerpaw," Bramblestar meowed as Slothclaw bowed to his new apprentice. "And finally, Longleap, pass you long lasting energy and immense leaping skills to Otterpaw." The clan cheered the apprentices new names. Wisppaw immediately felt shy again. He didn't feel that comfortable with strangers. Even if they were in his clan. He barely noticed as Scalefur padded closer to his apprentice.

"You need to learn how to climb," Scalefur meowed, making Wisppaw jump. He turned to face his mentor.
"You scared me!" Wisppaw meowed. Scalefur's whiskers twitched in amusement.
"Have you had any experience climbing?" Scalefur asked. Wisppaw shook his head. "Not even sneaking out of the nursery?" Wisppaw shook his head again. "Alright, I guess we have to start from scratch. When you climb, make sure to use your tail. It'll help make you more stable walking on the thin branches. In other words, your tail can be used to balance yourself. Like this," Scalefur meowed, walking over to the nearest branch. He hopped on. His tail flicked from side to side, and up and down as he walked along the branch. Wisppaw noticed he kept his claws out, digging them into the branch. Scalefur crouched over the branch, keeping his center point low to avoid falling off. Wisppaw crept towards the branch. He unsheathed his claws. As Wisppaw crept onto the branch, he kept himself low. He moved his tail to the opposite side he was tipping.
"Good job!" Scalefur congratulated him. "Are you ready for jumping?" Wisppaw nodded hesitantly. He knew he could do it. He was just frightened of the negative outcome.
"Ok, now when you jump..." Scalefur began, helping Wisppaw correct and improve his positions. They practiced all day. After Wisppaw ate, he collapsed in the apprentices den. His eye lids soon shut, as he drifted off to sleep.

Sorry for the time skip! I really want to get to the interesting part!

Chapter 6

Splashkit woke up. He was to be apprenticed today. He groomed himself, wanting to impress the other clan cats. *I want to be the most handsome cat in the clan. Tigerkit will be at my side, of course.* He purred at the thought of his mate-to-be. *Her delicate stripes, sweet blue eyes, and soft purr... She'll be a great mother.*

"Let all cats old enough to climb sit on the branches around me," Bramblestar called. The clan soon gathered, ears pricked. "Today is a special day. Five kits are ready to become apprentices. They'll have only a moon of training on dry ground before the rains come," he meowed while jumping on the kit platform.

"Step forward," he meowed to the five kits. They obeyed. "From this day forward, until you receive your warrior names, you will be know as Ravenpaw, Snowpaw, Splashpaw, Otterpaw, and Tigerpaw. Monkeytail, you have trained many apprentices. I hope you pass all know to Ravenpaw," he meowed. Monkeytail leapt to Ravenpaw, and they bowed to each other, promising to do their best. *Why did he say my name in the middle. I'm obviously the best!* Splashpaw thought.

"Branchclimber, train Snowpaw hard. I know you will pass your agility and balance to her," Bramblestar meowed. Branchclimber and Snowpaw bowed to each other when Branchclimber reached the platform.

"Sca-" Bramblestar said, but was interrupted by Splashpaw.

"Thank you for the suggestion, but I think Caymantooth would be a better fit for me," Splashpaw meowed. The clan murmured to each other, clearly surprised.

"Alright, if you think you know better then me. Even though I'm many moons older than you, and have actually been trained. Caymantooth, you will mentor Splashpaw. Make sure he is disciplined and knows how the clan runs." Bramblestar meowed. He was clearly unimpressed. Caymantooth bounded over to Splashpaw. Splashpaw merely nodded to him as Caymantooth bowed. Caymantooth was very irritated.

"Slothclaw, pass your patience and gentleness to Tigerpaw," Bramblestar meowed as Slothclaw bowed to his new apprentice.

"And finally, Longleap, pass you long lasting energy and immense leaping skills to Otterpaw." The clan cheered the apprentices new names.
"Alright know-it-all, today I'll be teaching you have to gather soft leaves for the dens," Splashpaw's mentor hissed. He snorted.
"Isn't learning how to hunt much more useful than gathering leaves?" Splashpaw snootily. Caymantooth narrowed his eyes.
"Fallow me," he meowed. He turned the other way and ran along the branches. Splashpaw, having no clue how to balance properly, stumbled along the branch. Then it clicked. Wisppaw's training came into his mind. He straitened up, and ran easily along the branch. Caymantooth looked shocked, then puzzled. *Where did he learn how to climb?* His mentor thought. He shook it off, and ran towards the tree with the softest leaves. Splashpaw followed.

"Make sure to get the fuzzy leaves with the slick top. We can flip them to be more warm or more cold. When the this tree sends of seeds-" Caymantooth pointed to a near by tree "-it produces a soft, fluffy down. We use that in our dens as well. Can you guess how to pick these leaves?" Splashpaw snorted.

"Of course I can," he said arrogantly as he griped the leaf in his mouth. He pulled on it, digging his teeth into the leaf.

"No no no, bite the stem. You'll shred the leaf the way *you* are doing it. Like this," his mentor said, demonstrating the proper way to pick a leaf. "Now pick as many as you can, then we'll go back. Alright?"

Splashpaw snorted again. He reluctantly nodded, and started to pick the leaves. When they had as much as they could carry, they went back to camp. Splashpaw laid his leaves down in the apprentices den, making sure to layer it nice and thick where he and Tigerpaw would be sleeping.

After gobbling up a manikin bird, he went to sleep. He found Tigerpaw already asleep. He curled around her, purring. Her soft coat in twined in his. He soon fell asleep listening to her steady breaths.

Chapter 7

A sharp prod awoke Wisppaw.

"Time for training." It was his mentor, Scalefur.

"Alright, I'm up," Wisppaw said, letting out a huge yawn.

"No need to eat. We won't be training that long," Scalefur said.

"What are we doing?" Wisppaw asked. He stretched, his claws unsheathed in pleasure.

"Hunting." Wisppaw jumped up.

"Really! You think I can climb that well?" He squeaked. Scalefur nodded.

"You can climb really well for a beginner. If you keep it up, you might make warrior before your sisters." At that, Wisppaw almost yowled in joy. "Alright, settle down. We still need to teach you to hunt, remember?" Wisppaw nodded, calming down like his mentor instructed. He followed his mentor out of the den. They climbed through the trees. Only stopping when they reached a large flowering tree.

"Be as quiet as possible when climbing that tree. There are a few birds up there. When you get there, keep your feet in, tail still, and stay as close to the branch as possible. When you feel you can jump on the bird, do it. Make sure to bite the back of the neck and twist," Scalefur whispered. Wisppaw nodded. He crept up the tree. He kept low to the bark. Soon he was close to the bird. The bird must have seen him, since it started to fly. Wisppaw jumped, grabbed its tail feather, and tried to pull it to himself. The bird felt his claws on its tail. It flapped its wings as fast as possible, escaping the claws of Wisppaw.

Wisppaw started to fall. He tried to grab the branches as he fell, yet they were just out of his reach. He thought he was going to die when, thump! He landed on something soft. He opened his eyes, which he had closed during his fall. Wisppaw was siting on a branch. He stepped to the side to see a almost flattened bird beneath him. Wisppaw smiled as much as a cat could. He grabbed his prey, and raced down the tree.

Scalefur congratulated him. They shared the bird. Scalefur allowed them to eat since hunting had taken longer than expected,

and he didn't want his apprentice to starve. He had caught a few fish, so the clan was taken care of. He tried to briefly teach Wisppaw to fish, but it took the rest of the day. They wearily went pack to camp, each carrying their fish. As they dropped their fish in the prey basket, Wisppaw bumped into Vineflower, a newly made warrior. Her eyes turned from surprise to warmth. She quickly climbed away. Wisppaw shook himself. They plopped den in their different dens, Wisppaw's muscles aching. Soon asleep, their breathing slowed. Rain sprinkled, trying to get the cats wet, but the slick leaves woven in the branches kept it out.

Chapter 8

Splashpaw woke up curled around Tigerpaw. Her gentle purr made him purr. Then he thought of the look Vineflower had given his counter part, Wisppaw. *If she likes that me, then she'll like this me,* he thought. Nuzzling Tigerpaw, he got up. She looked up.

"You're going?" She whispered. He nodded. "Alright, see you out there." With that she curled back up. Splashpaw left to go find his mentor.

On his way out, he walked by Vineflower. Her hindquarters swished from side to side as they tend to do in some cats. He turned around just as she look away. Bounding up to her, he said,

"Meet me by the big mangrove by the waters edge at sundown." Her eyes lit up. She nodded. His whiskers twitched. *She must really like me*. "See you there," he said, walking along the thick branch. It was so wide, three cats could walk on it. Splashpaw found his mentor eating a fish.

"What are we doing today," Splashpaw asked. He was in a good mood today since he had two beautiful she-cats after him. He didn't even bother to sneer at his mentor.

"Patrolling. I want you to see the territory," Caymantooth said. Splashpaw was actually delighted at this since this could give him a chance to think about Vineflower and Tigerpaw. Of course Splashpaw didn't show this, only made a fake irritated huff.

"When do we leave?" He asked dryly.

"Now," his mentor said. Splashpaw hadn't eaten, yet his mentor still made him leave then. After hopping to the ground, Caymantooth showed Splashpaw the whole territory. Caymantooth occasionally spoke to identify a plant or landmark. Splashpaw didn't even listen. His thoughts were on what he and Vineflower would do together.

I'll bring some prey for us to eat. When she leans down to take a bite, I will too. I have to make sure our noses touch. (Touching heads, noses, and tails is romantic in this book. That is why mentors and apprentices bow to each other) *Then I can see if she is like Tigerpaw or not. Tigerpaw fallows the rules to closely. She doesn't even test the rules limits. I hope Vineflower isn't like that.* He had thought along the

way.

Before he even knew it, they were back below camp. He bounded up they tree, and grabbed the fattest piece of prey. The sun was already low. He ran to the mangrove by the water. Beneath its branches he put the large fish down. He stretched it out, making sure it looked fresh. He groomed himself. He wanted to look like he had been there all day. She wouldn't believe it since he had apprentice training to do, but he didn't care.

Not long after he settled down, she came. Her black fur almost invisible in the gathering darkness.

"You brought food! Thank StarClan! I'm starved!" She meowed, licking her lips. She settled down in front of him. She leaned down to take a bite. *Now!* Splashpaw quickly leaned down to take a fake bite. Their noses touched. She raised her head.

"Splashpaw!" Vineflower scolded, surprise and pleasure in her meow. He looked up at her, yet his head stayed down.

"Yes?" He purred. He stood, and walked over to her, laying down beside her. "What is it?"

"Nothing. Nothing at all," she purred. She leaned against him. Splashpaw realized he was as big as her. *I'm not puny anymore.* He nuzzled her beneath her jaw, and placed his tail on hers. Vineflower's purr grew louder. Their tails twined together. He pressed his nose against hers. She suddenly walked over to the other side of the small clearing. She laid down, bringing her tail slightly up and to the side. She looked over her shoulder at him. She signaled him over.

What I've been waiting for! He trotted over, grabbing her scruff. He laid down, pressing his backside into hers. Vineflower got up, Splashpaw still on her back.

"To bad your still an apprentice, but by the time your a warrior, our kits will be born," she sighed. He purred louder. She walked around a little bit, Splashpaw attached to her back.

A rain drop splashed on her nose.

"Splashpaw?"

"Ahuh," he managed to say through her scruff.

"We should go back. It's starting to rain," she meowed worriedly. Splashpaw rapped his forepaws around her middle, and let go of her scruff.

"Don't you want to insure that you'll have my kits?" He asked.

"Yes, but what if Bramblestar finds out?"

"So what if he does! Our relationship isn't against the warrior code. It would be different if one of us was from IslandClan."

"You have a point, but I'll get cold and wet!" She wined.

"Not if I'm on you."

"Won't you get cold?" Vineflower asked.

"No. I've got thick fur. Don't worry about me. Let's just stay out her till the moon is almost gone, alright?"

"Ok," she meowed. Splashpaw was trying to be as nice as possible, but he really didn't care about Vineflower. He just wanted to make sure she had *his* kits. He just wanted to declare her his.

"When the moon is low, I'll still be on you so you won't get wet when we, well you, walk back." He meowed. She nodded. "Didn't you want to eat that fish?"

"Yes! I completely forgot!" Vineflower meowed. She dragged the fish, with Splashpaw still on her back, under to mangrove tree. He let go of her middle, and grabbed her skruff again as she laid down. He let go of her scruff after a bit. She ate, and he slept. Soon the moon was low, and it was time to head back. She let him sleep till they got back. Vineflower shook him off, and climbed to the warriors den as fast as she could. She didn't want to get wet. Splashpaw, now awake, climbed to the apprentices den, and soon fell a sleep.

Sorry this one was twice as long, and a little gross, but it needed to be done! I really needed you to see his mindset, and this *is* how real cats mate. The tom gets on her back, bites her scruff, and holds on as she continues her everyday business. It's weird, I know, but it works for them. Sorry, again, for the gross and long chapter, but like I said earlier, it needed to be done.

Chapter 9

It rained for days and days, almost a moon. The water rose and rose. Wisppaw was on a fishing patrol with, Snowpaw, Eveningbreeze, Branchclimber, and Scalefur. The continual rain drenched their fur. The water was up to their backs if they sat down.

Snowpaw was the first in the water. She had climbed ahead of the others. She wanted to catch the biggest fish before anyone else caught anything. No one was aware of the green anaconda curled around a tree just above the water. Wisppaw heard a splash as his sister dove in. Her white pelt making her easy to see. The anaconda saw her.

Wisppaw wanted to be the second one in, so he climbed a little faster. He was the first to see the snake. It swam silently through the water. The snakes body twisted and curved, moving through the water like it was born there. Wisppaw's blood ran cold.

"Snowpaw!" He screamed. He could here the warriors climb faster. Snowpaw turned just in time to see the snake. She tried to swim away, only to be caught be the snake. It rapped itself around Snowpaw's small body. She struggled, and screamed over and over. Wisppaw dove into the water. The patrol was right behind him.

Snowpaw was barely struggling. She had given up on life. She could barely breath. The anaconda squeezed tighter and tighter. The patrol clawed at the snake. It wouldn't let her go. After what felt like ages the snake let go. Blood pooling from scratches the cats had made. The murky water turned a reddish brown. Wisppaw grabbed his sisters scruff, and tried to drag her to dry land. The piranhas, having noticed the bloody water, coming as fast as they could.

"Get out of the water!" Eveningbreeze screeched.

"No! I can't leave Snowpaw!" Wisppaw cried.

"Do you want to get eaten alive?" Branchclimber yowled. Wisppaw, not willing to leave his limp sister, was tugged by Scalefur to the nearest tree. Snowpaw's limp body still in Wisppaw's jaws. The piranhas bit Snowpaw's tail, tearing it to pieces. Wisppaw tried to drag her body up the tree, yet the soaked cat was to heavy

for him. He let her body slip into the water.

Soon the water was turned crimson. The piranhas ate Snowpaw's body to the bone. Wisppaw screeched and screamed. Scalefur, being the largest in the patrol, was forced to carry Wisppaw up the trees. Wisppaw didn't want to leave. As Scalefur brought him to his den, and Wisppaw curled up, he could hear his mother crying and yowling.

Sootsplash cried for her lost kit. Ravenpaw cried as soon as she found out. The clan mourned Snowpaw's death. While Wisppaw eventually fell asleep after lying in his nest, frozen in shock.

Chapter 10

Splashpaw woke up in the apprentices den. He jump up. *Snowpaw! No. What am I thinking. She died in Wisppaw's world, so she isn't dead here, in my world.* He shook his ruffled pelt, and cleaned himself thoroughly. After eating a fish, it was time for training.

"Ok, Splashpaw. See if you can beat me," Caymantooth was saying. They were in the water, battle training. Splashpaw charged at his mentor. He leapt in the air, land on Caymantooth's back. Caymantooth bucked, sending his apprentice flying. Splashpaw let the air bubbles float out of his mouth. He wanted Caymantooth to think he was injured.

As Splashpaw thought he would, Caymantooth came over to him. Splashpaw leapt out of the water, taking a big breath. He dove under his mentors legs, flipping over under the water, and raking his paws over Caymantooth's stomach.

"Good job. We'll continue tomorrow," Caymantooth said. *More like a day after tomorrow for me.* Splashpaw thought. They went back to camp for a short nap. Splashpaw didn't sleep, or he would be Wisppaw again, so he went to find Tigerpaw.

"Want to take a walk?" He asked, and of course, she agreed.

He took her far away. Where patrols didn't come. He let her pass him, staring in awe at the little cove he lead her to. The fish swam in the slightly murky water. He jumped on her, grabbing her scruff. He swept her tail to the side with his, pushing his backside into hers. She squealed in surprise, sinking to the ground under his weight.

The water came over her back, almost up to her mouth and nose. She tried to buck him off, but her legs had folded under her. She could only lay there. She tried to twist and turn, but being larger, he stayed put. She managed to get him off eventually, but not before it was to late. She was impregnated with his kits, long before they became warriors.

Splashpaw pinned her to the ground, only letting her ear poke out of the water. She struggled.

"Promise me you'll be *my* mate! Promise me you'll only have *my* kits!" He growled in her ear. "Or I will kill you, *and* the father of the

kits." He let her mouth come up.
"Yes..." She whispered. "Please. Just let me up," she pleaded. She opened her eyes. They were filled with fear. He snorted.
"Alright." He pushed her under while getting off her. Then he left her to weep. He curled up in the apprentices den, soon falling asleep. Tigerpaw stayed where she was. She wept and cried. She looked at the branched covered sky.
"Oh StarClan, what did I agree to?"

Sorry this was so short, and sad. I feel so bad for Tigerpaw! She's so sweet and kind, but Splashpaw abuses her. Anyways... what do you think of Vineflower and Splashpaw?

Chapter 11

Wisppaw awoke. *I am* so *sorry, Tigerpaw. It least I'm not living in that world, for today.* He thought. He got up. Tigerpaw stirred.
*"*What's wrong?" She whispered, not wanting to wake the others. He met her eyes.
"I had the worst dream! I threatened to kill you if you didn't become my mate," he whispered. She looked away.
"I'd become you mate even if you didn't threaten to kill me," Tigerpaw meowed. Wisppaw's heart swelled.
"Really?" He asked. She nodded. He rushed over to her. "Will you?"
"Yes," she said, licking his ears. They groomed each other for a while.
"Awww!" A cat meowed. It was Ravenpaw. Wisppaw lowered his ears in embarrassment while Tigerpaw turned away. "My brothers got a mate!"
"N-" Wisppaw started to protest, but was interrupted by Ravenpaw.
"It's alright. I won't tell any body," she meowed, more serious.
"Thank you," Wisppaw meowed, relived, while Tigerpaw let out a sigh. Ravenpaw smiled.
"I'll leave you two *lovebirds* alone. I'm on dawn patrol," she meowed.
"We were just coming out, actually," Wisppaw meowed, embarrassed. Tigerpaw nodded hurriedly. Ravenpaw laughed.
"In the rain? Ok," she meowed.
"Good! your up! We will be going on a hunting patrol," Scalefur said when seeing Tigerpaw and Wisppaw.

"Where to?"Wisppaw asked.

"I believe we are going to the large mangrove tree by the water, but we are going to need to climb since the water has risen so much the cayman will be back," Scalefur said. Wisppaw gulped. *That's where Vineflower and I, no Splashpaw-* his thoughts were interrupt.

"Want to share something?" Tigerpaw asked.

"Sure," Wisppaw said, recovering from his disturbing thoughts. They picked out fish, and ate it. Each took turns biting into the juicy flesh.

"Time to go!" Slothclaw called. The two apprentices joined their mentors to hunt.

The climb across the branches was difficult. The rain was relentless. The wet leaves and branches making them slip. Wisppaw had to catch Tigerpaw a few times, and he had to be caught by Scalefur a few times. After what felt like moons, they arrived.
"As you can see, we will be catching fish. If you see a snake, climb up the nearest tree, and jump from tree to tree. That way they can't get you. Don't go near logs, and stay away from places you can't see the bottom. Alright?" Slothclaw meowed, her eyes sincere. The apprentices nodded. "And call for us if you need help. Don't catch more than you can carry."
With that they dove in. The warm water calming. Wisppaw felt Tigerpaw beside him. He looked to her. She pointed to a large fish swimming just below them. He nodded, and he swam under it. Tigerpaw, still above the fish, bolted down towards it, scaring it towards Wisppaw. He twisted its neck to the side, killing it. He grabbed the fish, and swam up. He hauled it up a tree, and put it in between two branches.

Tigerpaw soon came up with another fish. They waited in the tree for a bit. When their mentors came, it was time to go. They grabbed their fish, and jumped back to camp. They settled down for a nice relaxing evening. They shared some prey together, shared tongues, and talked. After the moon rose, it was time to sleep. The camp soon fell silent. The only sound being the wind through the leaves.

Chapter 12

Splashpaw awoke. He smiled, and walked over to Tigerpaw's spleeping area. She had moved it farther from him. He laid down next her, purring, and stroked her with his long, black tail. She flinched at first then started to relax, a little. He smirked. *At last! She's mine!* He thought. He curled around till it was time for training. He reluctantly got up, and left the den.
"Scalefur, lead a patrol with Caymantooth, Vineflower, and Splashpaw to the border over on the side closet island. Other patrols have said there was monkey activity," the deputy Shadowriver meowed as Splashpaw came out of his den. Splashpaw was delighted to go on patrol with his mate. Vineflower's belly was already bulging. She looked like an over fed kittypet.
"Ready?" Scalefur asked. The cats in the patrol nodded. They jumped and leaped over to the border.

"When are the kits due?" Splashpaw meowed to Vineflower.

"Two moons," she answered.

"It's been that long?" He meowed, and she nodded. "Wow, it feels like just yesterday."

"Stop!" Scalefur meowed, and they stopped after jumping on the branch he was on. "Do you smell monkey? Argh! They've trespassed! I thought we taught them a lesson?" He yowled, exasperated.

"I suppose it's time to teach them another one," Caymantooth growled.
"Shouldn't we tell Bramblestar first?" Vineflower meowed. Scalefur nodded. "Alright, let's head back, and tell him." So the patrol marked to trees, and leapt back to camp.
"Bramblestar! The monkeys have trespassed again!" Scalefur yowled as they hopped up to camp. Bramblestar jumped out of his den.
"Then let us show tell them to stay on their side of the border with tooth and claw!" He yowled. The cats in camp cheered. "Snakefang, Caymantooth, Berryfall, Eelwhisker, Monkeytail, Eveningbreeze, Sootsplash, Otterpaw, Slothclaw, Branchclimber, Longleap, Splashpaw, Leaffall, and Vineflower-" Bramblestar began, but was interrupted by Vineflower.

"I need to stay here. I'm expecting," she meowed.
"Congradulations! Then of course you must stay here. Shadowriver, your in charge while I'm gone. Let's go!" He meowed enthusiastically. The deputy nodded. The patrol jumped from branch to branch soon reaching the border. They jumped across their scent markers into enemy territory. The monkeys where near by. Bramblestar let out a battle screech, and the battle began.
Red squirrel monkeys fled, oozing crimson. Splashpaw clawed and bit. Soon the cats were standing alone, drenched in blood, hardly any their own.
"Now that they have been taught their second lesson, let's go back to have out wounds checked by Pebblefrost," Bramblestar called.
The cats leapt after him as he jumped away. Berryfall stumbled. She had a large bite on her neck. Blood spilled from it like a waterfall. She screeched, and fell. Though her screeched sound more like a gurgle. Eelwhisker wailed. Berryfall was his sister. Snaketooth had to hold him back from jumping down to his sister.
The piranhas soon came, the water turned red. There was nothing left of her after a few heartbeats. Slashpaw almost laughed. *Serves her right! She was never strong enough to be a good warrior!* He thought. The patrol almost crawled back to camp. They grieved their climates death. Splashpaw, almost happy at her death, curled up, and went to sleep. He didn't need medical care since he wasn't wounded. His breath slowed to a gentle pace, and he was already Wisppaw again.

Chapter 13

Wisppaw awoke. *If Splashpaw fought the monkeys, then I will too! Should I tell Bramblestar they have been trespassing? Why not.* He thought, so he proceeded to jumped to Bramblestar's den after he groomed himself.
"Bramblestar?"
"Yes," his leader croaked. "Come in." Wisppaw came in, suddenly getting shy.
"Th-there are s-some monkey scents ac-ro-ss the border. I-I think they've tr-trespassed," he stuttered.
"Thank you Wisppaw. I'll make sure a patrol double checks in case the wind was strong, and if they did, we will have to teach them another lesson. You may go now," Bramblestar meowed. Wisppaw started to exit the den.
"Oh, and I-I had a dream that Berryfall died. C-could you please not send her? It-It seemed to real to be fake. She was bitten in the throat, and... and fell. The piranhas ate her," Wisppaw said, looking down in sadness.
"I know you wouldn't lie, so I won't send her."
"Thank you!"
"No, thank you for telling me about the monkeys. Oh and by the way, how did you know about them trespassing?" Wisppaw froze at his leaders last words.
"Dr-patrol. I was on patrol," Wisppaw meowed hurriedly. He almost said dream.
"Alright, thank you Wisppaw," Bramblestar meowed. Wisppaw quickly left. He hadn't realized how hungry he was till now.
Strange, I didn't hear Shadowriver assigning him a patrol there, and it's against our rules to go out alone, and Wisppaw wouldn't break them. It sounded almost like he said dream. A sudden idea dawned on the leader of RiverClan. *Is he the one? Is he the cat with the split paths?* Bramblestar thought. A voice in his head whispered *yes, beware the claw colored brown in the mists of black fur, for he will frost the hearts of the loving, yet the gentle rain will restore the love from those robbed from it.* Chills went down the leaders spine, and he curled up, deep in thought.

Wisppaw, chosen for the monkey battle, leapt along side his clan mates. They soon crossed the border into enemy territory. The monkeys weren't that far off, and Bramblestar let out a battle screech. Cats sprang on monkeys, and monkeys fought back. Claws and fur met, blood squirting out from in between the silvery daggers. Teeth bit into shoulders, tails, and paws. Soon the monkeys fled.
Snaketooth let out a yelp of victory.
"It doesn't seem any of us are wounded, so let's go back and feast!" Bramblestar yowled. The patrol followed, whooping in victory.
Wisppaw stayed up late with the others. They partied till the moon was high in the sky. Then, bellies full, fell sound asleep in their nice warm dens.

Chapter 14

Two moons later

Splashpaw padded out of the apprentices den. He stretched, his claws digging into the bark. He heard a shriek. *Sounds familiar. Probably just a cat almost falling off.* Another shriek. It sounded in pain. Pebblefrost hurried out of his den. His mouth was stuffed with herbs and a stick. *What is going on?* He ran over to the sound. *Vineflower! She's kitting!*

The black queen was lying on the nursery platform, her belly bulging. Splashpaw saw a ripple pass through her. As it did, she shrieked. He started to bound over then stopped. *How would it look if an apprentice was the first to see the new kits? They might suspect me to be the father. Oh who cares! It isn't against the 'warrior code'.* He spat in his head. He ran over, claws going deep in to the soft bark.

"Vineflower's kitting?" He asked nonchalantly.

"What do you think!" Pebblefrost growled. Vineflower screeched. "Here, bite on this." Vineflower obeyed the medicine cat. She bit down on the stick he gave her.

"Now, when I tell you push, push. Alright?" He meowed, and she nodded. "One...Two...and now!" Vineflower pushed, a ripple passed through her, the stick splintered, and a tiny bundle slipped into the grass. Pebblefrost bit the sack around it, and licked its fur the wrong direction.

"Here, make yourself useful and lick the kits fur the opposite direction," the medicine cat growled, shoving the kit in Splashpaw's face. Splashpaw shrugged, fake of course, and grabbed his kit. He licked its fur the wrong direction. The kit's already long black fur soon became free of the goo surrounding it.

"Here comes another one!" Pebblefrost meowed. Another bundle slipped into the world as his mother whimpered in pain. "That's the last one. Congratulations! A tom and a she-cat!" The medicine cat left, giving Vineflower some borage before going.

"What should we name them?" Vineflower asked. "I was thinking Riverkit for the she-cat. She reminds me of the river with her brown coat."

"That's nice. Nightkit for the tom? Or maybe-" Splashpaw was interrupted by his mate.

"Nightkit it is. Now, I'm tired. Would you caring Nightkit into the nursery?" Splashpaw nodded. He dropped his son off, and went to go get something to eat. He ran into Tigerpaw on the way.

"So you're just going have kits all of the she-cats? Do you even care about me?" Tigerpaw growled. Her usual sweet nature gone.

"Now, now. No need to get yourself in a fit. I was only trying to get some experience at kittings. Since we will be having a few litters," he meowed calmly, the last part coming out as more of a sneer. He placed his teeth around her neck. "Now what was that again?" He meowed threateningly. Her small body shook in fear.

"N-nothing. N-nothing at-t all," she stuttered.

"Good. Remember, anger and fear isn't good for kit development," he growled, letting go of her throat. He walked over to the prey basket to eat, gobbled down a fish, and went off to go battle train.

After many bruises, he went back to camp. He soon fell asleep to the stars above twinkling.

Chapter 15

Three moons later

Wisppaw stretched. *I've been an apprentice for a while now. I wonder when I'm going to be a warrior?* Wisppaw thought. *I'll go ask Scalefur.* Wisppaw headed over to the prey basket, where his mentor was choosing a fat fish, after quickly grooming himself in the apprentices den.

"What are we doing today?" Wisppaw asked.

"Your assessment. Afterwards, we will straighten out the things you need work on. After you've perfected those things, we will hold your warrior ceremony," Scalefur meowed. Wisppaw mouths fell open.

"Now close your mouth, and get some thing to eat. We will start soon," Scalefur meowed. He grabbed his fish, and went over to his favorite branch to eat on. Wisppaw, embarrassed, closed his gapping mouth, and grabbed a fish. He settled down next to Tigerpaw, who was eating a fish as well.

"What are you doing today?" He asked his mate.

"Assessment! You?" She mumbled around a mouthful of fish, quickly swallowing to be polite.

"Same! Do you think we will become warriors at the same time?" Wisppaw asked her.

"Hopefully! That way we can chose sleeping places next to each other," Tigerpaw purred. She rubbed her muzzle against his neck. Wisppaw realized how large he was. He was as big as Caymantooth. He towered over the dainty Tigerpaw. *My name certainty doesn't fit me any more. Sootsplash named me for my small size.* Wisppaw thought. *Splashpaw was named after my mother, since she was sleeping, by my father. Who is my father again? I met him as a kit, but I totally forgot. Hmm... I'll meet him again. After all, this isn't a huge clan*.

"Time to go, Scalefur meowed, prodding Wisppaw. Wisppaw pushed the remains of his fish carcass off the branch into the water.

"Ready," Wisppaw meowed. He shot Tigerpaw a farewell glance, and ran after his mentor.

After reaching the upper training ground, like the kit platform, Scalefur had Wisppaw battle him. Wisppaw, being large yet slimmer than Scalefur, slipped out of the way as his mentor ran at him. Wisppaw slid under Scalefur's belly, and raked it with claws in. Expecting Wisppaw to come out the other side, Scalefur turned to pounce only to find Wisppaw not their. Wisppaw had came out the way he came, tackled his mentor, and was proclaimed the winner.

"Good job! Now for the tree climbing race," Scalefur congratulated. They raced across the trees, moving easily. Their long legs pushing off the branches. Their long bodies soaring through the air. Thick pads and large feet absorbed the shock of the branch as they landed. Wisppaw was the first back to camp. Scalefur was only heartbeats behind.

"We'll rest and eat for a while. Then I'll asses your hunting skills. The water has been here for a while, so quite a number of fish will be dead. Their is no oxygen left in the water," his mentor meowed. "We might be able to try a capybara."

"Ok," Wisppaw meowed. Tigerpaw came racing back to camp, hard on her mentors heels. Wisppaw ran to greet her.

"How was it? Do you think you've passed?" Wisppaw meowed exitedly.

"Yes, and you?"

"Yes, want to share a fish? I have to hunt after this," Wisppaw asked.

"Me too! Sure." They grabbed a good sized fish, and devoured it. They soon had to hunt.

"Alright see how much you can get. I won't be hunting since you will need help to carry all of the food. Since you can't go in the water alone, I'll be in there to help you or warn you of danger," Scalefur meowed.

Wisppaw nodded, and jumped in to the warm water. He quickly caught quite a few fish before it was time to go back. Like Scalefur said, Wisppaw needed help carrying all the fish. Tigerpaw needed three cats to carry all of her fish. *Wow!* The sky had darkened, and it was time to sleep. Tigerpaw, and Wisppaw curled up next to each other. Soon their chest rose and fell slowly. They were deep in sleep.

Chapter 16

Splashpaw stretched. He had just woken up. Tigerpaw padded up next to him on the large branch. Her belly was huge.

"Your belly looks large, beautiful. Have you been eating to much lately?" Splashpaw teased.

"You know why," Tigerpaw murmured. She turned her head to the side in sadness. *StarClan why? I'm to young!* She thought.

"Yes I do," Splashpaw meowed. He stroked her belly with his tail. She pushed it away.

"Please, not now. My stomach hurts," Tigerpaw meowed. Splashpaw sighed and stopped. He began to walk away when Tigerpaw's gasp stopped him. He turned around to find her hunched over in pain.

"Th-their c-com-ing," she meowed in between gasps. Splashpaw just stared at her in confusion.

"Move, you hairball!" Sootsplash, his mother, shouted. She shoved him out of the way, almost making him fall off.

"Call me that agai-" he started indignantly, but was interrupted by Sootsplash.

"Help me get her to the nursery, or go get Pebblefrost," she growled. His mother sighed when her son just looked more confused. "Her kits are coming, you flea-brain!" She growled. Splashpaw, slightly taken back at his mother's tone, climbed up to the medicine cat den.

"Pepplefrost! Tigerpaw's having kits! Now!" Splashpaw called. Pebblefrost raced out with herbs. They bounded over to the nursery. The first kit was already on the platform next to its mother's stomach. Tigerpaw didn't seem to be in that much pain, just in shock. Pebblefrost gave her some leafs, and gently pushed on her stomach. Soon another kit joined the clan.

"Congratulations Tigerpaw! Even though you are young to be having kits, your kitting wasn't dangerous at all. You have two she-cats!" The cranky medicine cat meowed. He sounded happy. Splashpaw looked at his daughters. A black and brown tabby, and a tortoiseshell. Pebblefrost and Sootsplash padded away, murmuring. Splashpaw sauntered up to Tigerpaw.

"Aren't they beautiful," Tigerpaw sighed.

"Yeah, yeah, sure. It would have been nice to have a son," Splashpaw mumbled.

"And why is that! You should be happy with our kits. I didn't even consent to having them!" she growled.

"She-cats are generally weaker than toms. I want my kits to be strong. I shouldn't need your consent, you weak piece of useless flesh," he growled. Tigerpaw looked hurt and angry. She stood up to swat him, but her kits meowed pitifully for her, so she quickly sat down again.

"The odds of getting a tom is one out of two! It's even! I can't control the gender of our kits!" She meowed furiously. "If you aren't going to say something nice, don't say anything at all. Now if you'll excuse me! I'm going to take *my* kits to the nursery." She gently pick up their kits, and stalked into the nursery. Splashpaw could hear her weeping. Vineflower and their kits came running out.

"So I'm not the only one," she teased. More seriously she added, "You know, you were a little to hard on her. She's very sensitive, and she's really into you. Be easy on her. That way she'll be yours forever."

"Thanks Vineflower. I knew I made the right choice with you. Hello Riverkit and Nightkit!" He meowed. "How are my kits today?"
"Good!" They squeaked. "Can you play Cayman with us?"
"No, I have my warrior assessment today."
"Aww," the mewed sadly.
"Really! It feels like yesterday you were made an apprtice and I a warrior!"

"Yeah, well I need to go otherwise Caymantooth will be as angry as a cayman." Vineflower licked his ear, and went to go to their kits. Splashpaw ran off to find Caymantooth to have his assessment.

Splashpaw fell exausted in his den. Caymantooth had made him work his tail off. He soon fell asleep. Though not as fast as he would've if I Tigerpaw's warmth, and steady breath lulled him to sleep.

Chapter 17

Wisppaw awoke to his leader's call.
"Let all cats old enough to climb, gather beneath me to hear what I have to say." Wisppaw sleepily padded out onto the branch. He walked over to Tigerpaw, who was with the other gathered cats.
"Today we celebrate four new warriors! Otterpaw, Ravenpaw, Tigerpaw, and Wisppaw, step forward. Your mentors have spoken to me, and they all agree you are ready.

"I, Bramblestar, leader of RiverClan, call upon my warrior ancestors to look down on these apprentices. They have trained hard to understand the ways of your noble code, and I commend them to you as warriors. Do you promise to uphold the ways of the warrior code, even at the cost of your lives?"

"I do," they meowed. Otterpaw was the loudest.

"Then by the powers invested in me, I name Otterpaw, Ottersplash for his energy and attitude, Ravenpaw, Ravenfeather for her grace and agility, and Tigerpaw, Tigerflower for her beauty and kindness. Last but not least, Wisppaw.

"Spirits of StarClan, you know every cat by name. I now ask you to take away the name of the cat that stands before you, for it no longer stands for who he is. By authority of clan leader, and the approval of StarClan, I give him a new name. From this moment on, you will be know as Mudsplotch for the unique brown splotch in you chest, and your honesty," Bramblestar meowed proudly. The clan cheered their new names.

"Ottersplash! Ravenfeather! Tigerflower! Mudsplotch!"

Mudsplotch ducked his head in embarrassment. Tigerflower did as well. Sootsplash came running up to him.

"Your a warrior now! Oh how they grow up so fast! I need to congratulate your sister! I'll be back soon!" She meowed excitedly. She rushed of to her other kit. Tigerflower padded up to him.

"So we're warriors now. Your name suits you. Wisppaw made me think of a small, weak apprentice, but Mudsplotch makes me think of a big, strong, and handsome warrior. Just like you," she meowed. She looked down in embarrassment.

"Your name makes me think of a beautiful, sweet smelling flower

that's falling gracefully onto water dappled by the light shining through the trees," he murmured. She looked up at him lovingly. She opened her mouth to say something, but was interrupted by their leader.

"Now for our tradition after a warrior ceremony! We will hunt capybara!" He yowled. The clan cheered again, and raced out of camp to the capybaras' swimming area. They quickly killed a few, and dragged them up the trees to camp. They laid them down on the kit platform, and freasted. They ate so much they filled out any wrinkles in their skin.

After eating all that, they settled down to talk and groom. They talked and groomed till the moon was almost gone. Only falling asleep at the first light of dawn.

I know I used an original clan, but I couldn't think of another name for them. They live on the Amazon River. I learned a lot more researching for this book, than I do most weeks in school.

Chapter 18

Splashpaw stretched. He could hear his his kits in the nursery. Bramblestar called a meeting.

"Let all cats old enough to hunt gather beneath me to hear what I have to say." Splashpaw leisurely stretched. He knew what was going on. He padded out lazily, and joined Caymantooth.
"Today we celebrate four new warriors! Otterpaw, Ravenpaw, Tigerpaw, and Splashpaw, step forward. Your mentors have spoken to me, and they all agree you are ready.

"I, Bramblestar, leader of RiverClan, call upon my warrior ancestors to look down on these apprentices. They have trained hard to understand the ways of your noble code, and I commend them to you as warriors. Do you promise to uphold the ways of the warrior code, even at the cost of your lives?"

"I do," they meowed. Splashpaw was the loudest this time.

"Then by the powers invested in me, I name Otterpaw, Ottersplash for his energy and attitude, Ravenpaw, Ravenfeather for her grace and agility, and Tigerpaw, Tigerflower for her beauty and kindness, and Splashclaw for you great fighting skills and fast claws," his leader yowled. The clan cheered their new names.

"Ottersplash! Ravenfeather! Tigerflower! Splashclaw!" Splashclaw raised his head proudly, and puffed his chest arrogantly. He ran over to his mates who were standing side by side with Vineflower's and his kits. Tigerflower's and his were to young to come out.

"How are my beautiful mates doing today?" He asked. Tigerflower look shocked.

"So your Riverkit's and Nightkit's father! I thought I was your one and only..." She murmured.

"Yes, sweet flower. Where do you think Riverkit's coat and eye color came from?" He meowed, twining tails with Vineflower. He pushed his nose against Tigerflower's.

"You..." She whispered in reply. "Do you want to see your kits?"

"Do they have names," Splashclaw meowed dryly.

"Y-yes... Spiderkit for the tabby, and Dapplekit for the tortoiseshell," she fumbled.

"Nice, now where are they?"

"The nursery. They can't come out since they don't have their eyes opened."

"Hm, I see them when they do," Splashclaw meowed nonchalantly. He played with Nightkit and Riverkit for a while as the majority of the clan hunted some capybara. He froze as Dawnriver walked past him. He turned to stare at her as she walked past, not even noticing.

"I'll be back soon," he meowed to his kits, distracted. They shrugged and continued to play fight. Splashclaw jogged up to Dawnriver. Her grey to black fading fur and pale blue eyes captivated him.

"Want to go on a hunting patrol together?" He asked.

"Sure, why not. I haven't hunted today," she replied. *Good, good,* Splashclaw thought.

"Let's go more inland."

"Alright."

"I know a big tree that is supper easy to climb. It has large branches. Almost as big as these. It has tones of birds on it," he meowed. In truth, the tree never had any prey at all.

"That sounds nice," she replied. They jumped off, climbing through the branches. They soon reached there destination.

"I don't see any-" Splashclaw cut Dawnriver off.

"The birds are hard to see. You can see them better in the tree."

"Ok," Dawnriver meowed, unsure. They jumped onto the next few trees, soon onto the tree Splashclaw had described. Dawnriver stared around in bewilderment.

"There are no birds."

"I know."

"Then why would you have me come out here?"

"For this," Splashclaw jumped on Dawnriver. He swept her tail to the side, and shoved his hind end into hers. She hissed.

"No, Splashclaw, just no," she bucked, trying to get the large tom off her. He wrapped his forepaws around her middle. She bucked and buck to no avail. She tried to bite him, but he just bit deeper into her scruff. Dawnriver groaned in exhaustion, and sunk to the bark.

"You will be my mate, forever. You are loyal to no other tom. I am the only tom you will ever have. Got that?" He growled.

"Never," she grunted.

"Then I'll have to do it the hard way," Splashclaw meowed. He got off her. "Fight me. If you win, I will never bother you again, but if I win, you will become my mate for the rest of your life, and have as

many kits with me as *I* want."
"Ok," Dawnriver meowed, determination sparkled in her pale blue eyes. They fought. Splashclaw jumped on her, pinning her. She turned, only to get pinned again. Every time she did something, he would pin her. She managed to get up at one point, and pin Splashclaw. He smiled. He brought his forepaws up so fast it knocked the wind out of her. She gasped, trying to breathe.
"Seems I've won. You remember our deal, right? Oh I forgot, you can't talked at the moment. Then I'll just have to be you. *Yes, Splashclaw, I'll be your mate!*" He mocked her higher voice. She looked at him defiantly, still gasping for air. Splashclaw turned her over, and sat down roughly. She grunted. He delicately pushed her tail to the side. Then forceful shoved his backside into hers. She gasped at the sudden impact. They just lay there, in the tree, for a while. Splashclaw on top of Dawnriver, who was breathing heavily. Splashclaw got up after a while. Then shoved Dawnriver up.
"Time to go back. The sky is darkening. Oh and on the way back, make sure to catch a fish or two," Splashclaw meowed, walking towards to next tree. "And one more thing, make sure to tell Bramblestar you can't go on warrior duties for a while. Since, you know, your expecting," He laughed. She sighed, and nodded. He snorted in amusement, and climbed back to camp. He settled down in the warriors den, and quickly fell asleep.

Not Dawnriver! Poor thing. Another one of Splashclaw's victims. See you in the next chapter.

Chapter 19

Mudsplotch awoke. A tingling feeling went up his spine. *Another one Splashclaw's victms. Yuck!* He thought. He curled up again, pressing his nose into Tigerflower's soft fur. He sighed. Tigerflower rolled onto her back.
"Want to go hunting?" She whispered.
"Just us?" He asked.
"Why not," she answered. They got up, carefully stepping over the sleeping warriors. They ran, jumping and leaping onto other branches, as soon as they got out.
"Where to?" Mudsplotch panted. He was breathing quickly from all that running and jumping.
"Here?" Tigerflower panted, out of breath.
"Ok," Mudsplotch meowed, flopping onto the branch. They laid there for a while, catching their breath. The eventually dove into the warm water. Dead fish lay at the bottom of the water. With no oxygen in the water, the fish couldn't breath. Even so, some fish managed to live. Tigerflower and Mudsplotch caught a couple. They ran back to camp, the fish in their jaws.

"Just in time! I was about to assign you two to a patrol. Would you go to the far border to check on the monkeys with Snaketooth and Ravenfeather?" The deputy meowed once they got back. They nodded, and climbed over to the waiting patrol. They began to follow Ravenfeather out of camp.

"Are you leading the patrol?" Mudsplotch asked his sister.

"Yes! It's my first!" Ravenfeather meowed exitedly.

"Congratulations!" Tigerflower meowed.

"Thanks," Ravenfeather meowed. They remained silent the rest of the way. The patrol marked the border, checked for any unusual behavior, and left.

"Let's bring back some prey for the clan," Snaketooth meowed. They all agreed, so the jumped into the warm water. With the limited supply of healthy fish, it took a while before each of them caught something. After Mudsplotch caught his fish, they all went back to camp.

"I think the dry season might be coming soon. The water seems a

little lower than usual."

"It does!" Ottersplash agreed. He and his mother were talking. Ravenfeather sat down near Ottersplash, and began to talk with him. Mudsplotch and Tigerflower went to their favorite spot, and ate a fish.

"Have you thought of kits?" Sootsplash meowed while walking past. Mudsplotch felt his ears warm up.

"N-no, no-t yet," he stammered. He was embarrassed his mother would ask something like that so suddenly.

"The whole clan is talking about how close you two are. They think that any day now you will be moving into the nursery," Sootsplash meowed, directing the last part at Tigerflower. Mudsplotch looked over to his mate. Her ears were flattened to her head in embarrassment.

"Mother!" Mudsplotch exclaimed.

"Alright! Just wanted to ask," she meowed then padded away.

"What do you think?" Tigerflower asked.

"About what?" He replied.

"Kits, mousebrain. That's what we were just talking about," she teased.

"Oh, right, ahh, whatever you want," he meowed.

"We are warriors now..." She started.

"Yeah?" He asked hesitantly.

"So maybe..."

"You want kits?" He asked, trying to spare the awkwardness.

"Yes," she replied sheepishly.

"Maybe it's time for the nursery to have someone living in it," he purred. He rubbed his cheek against hers.

"When?" He asked.

"Anytime. Now would seem like a good chance. The clan is just relaxing." Mudsplotch shuddered. He didn't want to be like Splashclaw.

"Alright," he meowed shakily. They jump off to the next tree. Continuing that till the got to the second largest tree in the territory. The tree Splashclaw took Dawnriver to.

"Are you sure?" Mudsplotch asked after reaching the tree. "I don't want you to be unprepared for kits."

"Yes, I'm sure. We can't stay out here all night," Tigerflower meowed, laying down.

"Ok," Mudsplotch said. He walked over to Tigerflower.

"Are-" he started,

"Yes! We don't have all day," she sighed. He slowly got on her. She moved her tail to the side.

"Ready?"

"Just sit down already!" Tigerflower snorted. Mudsplotch sat down, pressing his back side into hers. They lay there for a while.

"Ready to go back?" Mudsplotch asked.

"Alright," Tigerflower answered. Mudsplotch quickly got off her, relieved her didn't have to do that anymore.

"Why are you so hesitant?" Tigerflower meowed while getting up. *Should I tell her? That might make you scared of me! No way!*

"No reason in particular. I just want to make sure you are fully ready."

"Ok, now the clan's probably waiting. We should go."

"Yeah," he meowed. They climbed back to camp, and settled down for the night. Mudsplotch dreading going into Splashclaw's pelt.

Chapter 20

One moon later

Splashclaw awoke, and leisurely stretched. He climbed out to join the clan eating. He saw Dawnriver heading towards him. Her belly had grown, then shrunk. Tigerflower's belly, in Mudsplotch's world, had grown. Dawnriver looked upset. *Have my kits died?* He thought angrily. He stormed up to her.
"Why hasn't your stomach grown?" He asked coldly. She looked down. Her ears were back and her tail dropped in sadness.
"Pebblefrost told me it was a miscarriage. I'm sorry," she meowed, looking sadly at her empty belly. Splashclaw grew angry.
"Did you not do what I told you to? Did you go hunting or patroling?" He growled.
"N-no, I made sure not to. I wanted to have these kits. Even if it wasn't completely my choice," she murmured. Her eyes started to water.
"What did you just say?" Splashclaw growled. Dawnriver shrunk back, obviously to sad to really react properly.
"I just said I wanted to have kits. Even if it wasn't fully my choice, I still wanted them," she murmured.
"Then you'll be fine with some more," Splashclaw growled, springing on the grief filled queen. She squeaked in surprise as Splashclaw swept her tail aside.
"Splashclaw! We're in public! What about the kits?" She meowed in surprise.
"Let them see. It'll be good training," he purred. Dawnriver saw Tigerflower quickly herded the kits into the nursery while Vineflower slept. She had obviously seen. No one else seemed to notice. The rest of the clan proceeded to eat and talk, completely unaware of what Splashclaw was doing. Dawnriver had no choice but to let him stay on her. She wanted kits, and could be accused of murder if she bucked him off, since he would fall into the water. He soon jumped off.
"That should do it. No more miscarriages now, huh?" He purred. He rubbed his nose against Dawnriver's cheek. She just stood there.

"You should eat something to help my kits grow. I want them fit and healthy. Otherwise..." He growled. Dawnriver gulped nervously. The larger tom was obviously making death threats. She quickly grabbed a bite to eat. She ate it as far away from Splashclaw as possible.
Splashclaw saw Bramblestar walking over to his mother. Bramblestar sat down, and shared some prey with her. *Wouldn't that be nice. To have all the she-cats in camp. I could be leader some day. I just have to figure out a way to get an apprentice, and to have the deputy die. I could ask Bramblestar if there is anything I could do each day! That would kmake him trust me. Since there are no apprentices, I could do there duties. Even if it is boring, I must in order to become deputy. Then I could get Bramblestar to trust me even more, and kill him in the night. He wouldn't suspect a thing.* Splashclaw thought deviously. He sauntered up to his leader.
"Since there are no apprentices, I was wondering if you'd like me to do their job of making sure the dens are intact?" Splashclaw asked innocently. His leader looked surprised.
"How did our son turn out to be such a great cat?" Splashclaw heard Bramblestar say to Sootsplash. She purred something inaudible in his ear.
"That would be great! Thank you, Splashclaw," Bramblestar meowed, dismissing him with his tail. Splashclaw purred to himself. His plan was going well.

Splashclaw spent the day checking an all of the dens, patching holes, and getting new leaves and branches. He padded into the warriors den. Dawnriver hadn't moved into the nursery yet. Splashclaw curled around her. He loved a nice warm she-cat to curl around. Not only could he make sure she was caring his kits, he could get her to trust him more. He shoved his backside into hers. Splashclaw wanted to be one-hundred percent positive she was caring his kits. She flinched a little in her sleep, but soon relaxed again. Splashclaw fell asleep to her steady breaths.

Chapter 21

Mudsplotch awoke. *What a dung-face.* He thought, thinking about his counterpart. He curled closer around Tigerflower. She purred in her sleep. She had said she was cold, so Mudsplotch slept with her in the nursery. Her swollen belly making it hard to curl around her. Sometimes Mudsplotch could feel his kits moving around. He purred when ever they did. He slowly removed himself from his mates side. He had a patrol to lead. Tigerflower stirred when he left her side, but soon fell still again. Mudsplotch sighed lovingly, and left to go lead a patrol.
Dawnriver, Vineflower, and Eveningbreeze were on his patrol. Mudsplotch tried to forget what his counterpart had done to two of the she-cats. Eveningbreeze was the only she-cat in the patrol left untouched by Splashclaw, but would most likely have her purity tainted by his foul objective. Splashclaw's goal was to have all the she-cats in camp produce his offspring. Only StarClan noes why.
"Shall we go?" Dawnriver asked.
"Yes," Mudsplotch answered. The patrol padded along the branch, jumped onto the next one, and padded along that branch till they reached the border. Mudsplotch marked it, and continued on to the next landmark. He marked that one as well. The patrol continued this way till all the landmarks were marked. They leapt back to camp.
Mudsplotch grabbed a large fish to share with Tigerflower. They ate it slowly. Tigerflower ate for two. Mudsplotch talked with his mother for awhile. It turns out she was expecting kits again. Mudsplotch forgot about hearing Bramblestar talk to Sootsplash when he was Splashclaw about him being their son, so he asked who was their and his father.
"It's Bramblestar. Haven't you notice? He has a white splotch, you have a brown splotch. He's a brown tabby which is why part of you is brown," she answered.
"Oh, right! I forgot about that. He came to the nursery when I was younger, right?" Mudsplotch asked.
"Yes, only once though. He was always busy with leader stuff and such."

"I'll try to make you and him proud," Mudsplotch meowed. His mother smiled.
"You already have," Sootsplash purred. They stood there in silence for a while. It wasn't awkward silence, more of a pleasant quiet. Mudsplotch left when Tigerflower called to him.
"Yes?" He asked.
"I was wondering if it would be a good idea to think of names for our kit or kits?" She meowed.
"Sure," Mudsplotch meowed. He settled down next to Tigerflower, and they talked for the remainder of the day. They came up with Shadowkit for a black kit, Riverkit for a brown kit, Flowerkit for a she-cat, and Dapplekit for a tortoiseshell.
Tigerflower yawned, and went to get to sleep. Mudsplotch decided he should as well after a large yawn. His eyelids closed, and he soon fell asleep.

Chapter 22

Why thank you for that wonderful idea, Mudsplotch. I haven't mated with Eveningbreeze yet, Splashclaw thought. He was thinking of when Mudsplotch was on patrol with the three she-cats. He suddenly curled tighter around Dawnriver. She flinched, then relaxed. He removed himself from her side, and tip-toed over to Eveningbreeze. He gently bit her scruff, and carried the small she-cat out of camp. He brought her to his favorite tree. He laid her down, being careful not to wake her. If she woke, it wouldn't be as easy to make her carry his kits then having her asleep. Splashclaw. Gently moved her tail, and curled around her. He gently pushed his backside into hers. She didn't even flinch. He lay there, quite happy, while Eveningbreeze slept. The sun started to rise, it had been dark when Splashclaw woke up.
Eveningbreeze began to stir. Splashclaw licked her ears to try to get her to sleep a little more. She purred in her sleep. Eveningbreeze's eyelids flickered. *Slothdung! I was hoping for a little more time,* Splashclaw thought angrily. She pressed herself against him and sighed.

"Mmm... Shadowriver," she whispered while purring. Splashclaw almost snorted. *How could she like that beetlebrain ?* He mused. Eveningbreeze turned around, and snuggled into his fur. *Might as well go with it. Maybe she'll fall asleep again,* Splashclaw thought and began to lick her ear. She purred louder, and curled up. She opened her eyes to face him.

"Do-" she stopped, looking rather surprised to find Splashclaw instead is Shadowriver. "You're not Shadowriver! Why am I here?" She meowed, looking at the tree they were in.

"No, I'm not. You could say I'm a better version of him," he purred. "Why are you here? Well, I brought you here while you were asleep, so I could mate with you." Her mouth gaped.

"You didn't... You wouldn't... How-how could you..." She murmured.

"I already did," he purred, pressing his muzzle against hers. Eveningbreeze pulled back.

"No!" She yowled, pulling away. Splashclaw pinned her.

"Yes," he purred. "Now be careful. You wouldn't want to hurt *our* kits, would you now?" She shook her head.

"Good, now I'll give you a choice; stay loyal to me, and only me, or I'll kill Shadowriver. Will you stay loyal to me?" She gasped at his threat.

"No... I mean yes. Yes, I'll be your mate, but *only* to spare my love," she murmured sadly.

"Good, now let me insure my kits are in you." She sighed and sat up so he could proceed, knowing he would kill her Shadowriver.

They spent the morning together. Eveningbreeze pining for her love while Splashclaw licked her, and stoked her with his tail. Splashclaw, knowing that Eveningbreeze was emotionally unstable, and any aggressive behavior towards her might cause her to lash out and damage his litter, gently nudged her along. They soon reached camp, where Splashclaw directed her to the nursery. Eveningbreeze broke down once she was in. Dawnriver and Tigerflower raced over to comfort her. Vineflower tended to the kits.

Splashclaw sauntered over to his leaders den.

"Can I come in?"

"Yes," came the reply of his father and leader.

"Is there anything I could do for the clan?" Splashclaw asked.

"No not today. You've done all the things the clan needed to have done. I'll tell you if you can help," Bramblestar meowed, dismissing him with his tail. Splashclaw heard him mutter something after he left. It sound like 'he's done more then the deputy has'. Splashclaw purred at this. *Time for a new deputy.*

"Would you like to go hunting with me? Eveningbreeze will meet us there," Splashclaw meowed once he had reached the deputy.

"Sure," Shadowriver meowed. His eyes lit up when her heard Eveningbreeze's name. Splashclaw smirked. They jumped through the trees. Splashclaw led the deputy to the farthest border from camp.

"Now where is she?" Shadowriver meowed.

"She won't be coming," Splashclaw sneered.

"Why not? Does she not want to go hunting with me?" The deputy meowed, sounding hurt.

"No, she doesn't. She's my mate now. I took her from you, and I'll take something else from you too!" Splashclaw cackled. Shadowriver's eyes widened. "Your position and your life." With

that Splashclaw sprung on the deputy. He sliced the deputy's throat, smiling at the waterfall of blood coming from the soft tissue. The deputy made a gurgling sound.

"Say hello to StarClan for me," Splashclaw laughed. He slammed his paws on the deputy's head, and threw him into the water. The piranhas feasted. Splashclaw cleaned the deputy's blood of his paws, bushes out his fur, and ran back to camp. He wanted to look like he was scared to death. Splashclaw burst into camp, panting.

"Jag-jaguar got him!" He panted and gasped.

"Who?"

"Who was eaten by a jaguar?" The clan yowled. They crowed around Splashclaw.

"Let the poor cat speak!" Bramblestar yowled. Pebblefrost came running up with some herbs that he gave to the 'shocked' tom. "Now what happened?" The leader asked Splashclaw.

"Hunting... with... Shadowriver. He... chased ... bird... and went... over... border to ...follow it. I.. I heard... a screech and smelled... jaguar," he fake panted. The clan gasped. Murmuring spread through the clan like a wave.

"Silence!" Bramblestar howled. "We mourn the death of our deputy, but it is our tradition to appoint the new deputy after the former one's death so they can arrange the burial. No burial is needed for Shadowriver, but I will uphold the tradition," Bramblestar yowled once it was quiet. "I know he hasn't had an apprentice, but I will give him one as soon as possible. He has shown me loyalty and worthiness to be the next deputy. I say these words before our warrior ancestors so they may hear and approve my choice. Splashclaw will be the new deputy!" The clan yowled his name. Only some of his she-cats remained silent. Splashclaw wanted to puff out his chest, but remained hunched over in fake misery. He kept his eyes open for a long time so they looked red.

"I'm honored at your choice. I promise to serve the clan well," Splashclaw meowed, faking his surprise. Eveningbreeze came running up to him.

"You didn't kill him, did you?" She meowed. Splashclaw shook his head 'sadly'. "Good, even though you threatened to kill him, I believe you didn't. Oh you poor thing! I would hate to have my clan mate die right before my eyes. Come on over to the warriors den. It'll do you good to rest," she meowed sympathetically. *I'm surprised she got over his death so quickly. I would have thought she would've*

blamed me. Good thing she didn't, Splashclaw thought, and fake his tiredness, fear, shock, and grief. Well, part of his shock was true, but for different reasons. He stumbled over to the warriors den. Eveningbreeze stayed till he was all settled in, then began to leave.

"Don't go! Please! The jaguar might get me!" He cried softly, faking fear. He sounded like a kit. Eveningbreeze eyes narrowed in sympathy.

"Alright," she meowed softly. She curled up next to him, purring to try to comfort him. Splashpaw eventually fell asleep. Eveningbreeze's purring was hypnotic.

I just realized how long this is! Wow! 1200 words! I had to get it all in thought!

Chapter 23

Beetlebrained, snakehearted, dungfaced traitor! Mudsplotch cursed while thinking of Splashclaw's trickery. *How could he kill Shadowriver!? Argh!* He stood up, shaking his fur out. He quickly groomed himself. The wind whispered in the trees. A voice could become audible.

"Beware the claw colored brown in the mists of black fur, for he will frost the hearts of the loving, yet the gentle rain will restore the love from those robbed from it."

A prophecy! Given to me! This isn't good! No, no, no. Who is the claw, and who is the rain? I must tell Bramblestar! Mudsplotch thought. He hurried out of the warriors den, and barged into the leaders den. He came face to face with Bramblestar and Sootsplash licking each other's ears and cheeks. Mudsplotch froze. Bramblestar, realizing he had company, stopped licking Sootsplash, and quickly groomed his chest fur in embarrassment.

"Yes?" He asked. He signaled for Mudsplotch's mother to leave.

"I heard a prophecy. It was on the wind it sounded like this, *beware the claw colored brown in the mists of black fur, for he will frost the hearts of the loving, yet the gentle rain will restore the love from those robbed from it,*" Mudsplotch meowed, reciting the prophecy.

"Hmm... Go get Pebblefrost and Shadowriver, will you? They should hear this," RiverClan's leader meowed. Mudsplotch nodded, and ran to go get the medicine cat and deputy. They discussed the prophecy for a while. Soon the sun started to sink, and Mudsplotch hadn't had any prey yet. He grabbed a fish, and talked to Tigerflower for the rest of the day. Their kits were due soon. Her belly bulged. Pebblefrost said they would have three or four kits even though it was her first litter. Mudsplotch settled down in his nest, and soon fell asleep.

300 words exactly! Sorry this chapter was a little dull and short. I couldn't think of anything exiting to happen for Mudsplotch. Splashclaw's chapter will be better.

Chapter 24

Splashclaw awoke. He thought of all the she-cats in clan. *Are all my she-cats loyal to me? Tigerflower is for sure, Eveningbreeze is on the edge, as long as I don't give her any hint I killed Shadowriver I'll be fine, and Vineflower is like a medicine cat to a leader. She'll always be true to me. Dawnriver on the other hand. I feel like she'll betray me. I'll just have to build her trust by acting as sweet as possible. Luckily no ones awake yet. I'll have a chance to cuddle up to her before assigning patrols,* Splashclaw thought.
He padded over to Dawnriver after gently laying Eveningbreeze down. She had been almost on top of him in attempts to comfort him. He laid down by Dawnriver, and began to lick her. Her eyes flickered open.
"Why are you so hesitant to be with me?" Splashclaw whispered sweetly.
"Because you forced me to be with you," she whispered back, sadness in her voice. "You made me expect before I wanted to, and you hurt me in the process."
"Oh! I am so sorry! I thought all she-cats like a little domineering. I had no idea! I'm so sorry! How can you ever forgive me!" He meowed. He faked being apologetic a little to well.
"I already have," she purred. Dawnriver curled up against his stomach and chest. She pressed her nose into his fur. Splashclaw sighed in fake relief. He curled around her. *Now she'll stay forever true to me,* he thought, satisfied with his actions. Snaketooth began to stir.
"What are you doing!?" He meowed. His voice was quiet, but was filled with rage. "She's suppose to be mine! Did you steal her from me!" Splashclaw removed himself from Dawnriver, and sauntered up to the angered tom.
"On the contrary. She chose to be with me. I approached her and she agreed," he sneered. Snaketooth sprang at the deputy.
"Why you-" he started, but was interrupted by Splashclaw's feet slamming into him, pushing him off Splashclaw. Snaketooth readied himself to spring at the deputy again.
"Stop!" Dawnriver whispered fiercely, it was almost a yelp. She

bowled Snaketooth over. "I agreed to be with him. I love him! I'm sorry we never worked out, but I don't have feelings for you anymore," she whispered to Snaketooth. Snaketooth flattened his ears in sorrow and embarrassment.
"I'm sorry for attacking you, Splashclaw. It was unjustified. I'll do the apprentices duties if you like," Snaketooth whispered.
"It's alright, but we do need some cats to check the dens. Would you lead a patrol hunting? The water is starting to lower, and I want all the fish we can get. I'll get Caymantooth and Leaffall to check the dens," Splashclaw meowed. Snaketooth dipped his head in respect, and left. Dawnriver settled down again. Splashclaw rapped himself around her.
"I love you too," he whispered to her. Dawnriver purred, and soon fell asleep. Splashclaw pretend like he was. He was waiting for something.
He had been smelling Gentlerain's scent in his sleeping place every evening. Just like he had predicted, a soft coat curled up on the other side of him.

"Oh Splashclaw, why can't you be mates with me instead of all those other she-cats?" She whispered. In the blink of an eye, Splashclaw jumped up, sprang on Gentlerain, and pushed his backside into hers. She gasped at the sudden impact of a cat on top of her.

"Would you like me to be mates with you?" He asked smugly. Her eyes widened.

"You like me?" She gasped. "Oh yes! Yes a thousand times!" Splashclaw's smile grew. He rolled her over, and pushed his backside into hers again. He licked he cheek.

"I'm so happy I'm carrying your kits! Eee! Can't we be together all day? I know your deputy and all, so it might be hard, but can we spend the whole day together?" She squealed softly, not wanting to ruin their moment by waking up other cats. She pushed him over, and licked his ears vigorously.

"Calm down," Splashclaw purred. "I just have to assign patrols then we can do and go where every you want."

"Calm down? The love of my life likes me back! How can I be calm!" She squealed, bouncing every so slightly out of excitement. "Where ever and what ever! This is going to be the best day ever!" Splashclaw gently shook her off.

"I just need to assign patrols. After that, you can take me

anywhere," Splashclaw purred. He shook the other sleeping warriors awake. He hurriedly assigned patrols, and raced over to Gentlerain. They spent the whole day together. Splashclaw got to know Gentlerain very well. She was the sister of Vineflower, and has the same black coat. She was named Rainkit after her dark grey, almost black, spots. Then Bramblestar made her Gentlerain to honor her gentleness and kind heart. Splashclaw could hear it beating in her chest as he fell asleep in the warriors den, curled around his new found mate.

Chapter 25

Tigerflower felt a wave of pain roll over her. She bit back the yowl that threatened to come out. She didn't want to wake the clan, but didn't want to go get Pebblefrost for fear her kits might fall into the water below. She was forced to stay put. Her body rippled. She felt a small, wet bundle slide into the moss next to her. Through another convulsion, she reached down, and bit the sack of skin around.
Tigerflower forced herself to hold onto the kit while a ripple spread through her small body, and even though she wanted to let go and scream. She licked the fur around its mouth, eyes, nose, and ears. She gritted her teeth when another convulsion came. Another kit slipped into the world. Tigerflower bit the sack around it, and licked its face clean of slime.
She flinched as the first kit began to suckle. The second kit joined in. Tigerflower shrunk as another ripple passed through her. Several passed, but the kit didn't come out. She knew it was stuck. She reached over to pull it out, but flopped down into her nest as another convulsion shook her body.
Tigerflower felt herself tire. *StarClan help me!* She prayed. After a few agonizing moments, the kit was still in her. It would die if she didn't get it out. She rose, gentle pushing her kits aside. They'd be fine for a few moments. She stumbled out of the nursery.
Tigerflower managed to climb up to Pebblefrost's den. She collapsed in the woven floor.
"Get this thing out of me," she managed to rasp before falling unconscious.

When she awoke, Mudsplotch and Pebblefrost were by her side, so were two kits.
"I need to get to the other kits!" She meowed suddenly.
"Relax, they're fine. I had Mudsplotch check on them. Why didn't you call for help?" Pebblefrost asked gently.
"I didn't want to cause a commotion, and wake the clan," Tigerflower admitted. Mudsplotch rapped himself around her.
"They wouldn't mind. You could have died! Please don't scare me

like that again. When I heard you kitted, I was so worried. Pebblefrost told me half of you was here, and the other half was there. It worried me so much our kits were alone. I'm so glad they are all ok, and you too!" Mudsplotch meowed. He pressed his nose into his mate's fur.
"Can I see the others?" Tigerflower asked. Pebblefrost nodded.
"I'll carry the kits if you help her down. She's still a little weak," the medicine cat meowed. Mudsplotch helped his mate down to their other two kits. There was a black kit and a brown kit waiting for them, mewling for milk. Tigerflower curled around her kits, and Pebblefrost brought the other two, a tortoiseshell and a black and brown tabby, and laid them down by her stomach. Pebblefrost ran back to get some herbs.
"What should we name them?" Mudsplotch asked, curling around his mate.
"How about the names we discussed? Shadowkit for the black tom, Riverkit for the brown tom, Flowerkit for the brown and black tabby, and Dapplekit for the tortoiseshell," she purred.
"Perfect!" He purred. They looked at their kits for the majority of the day, whispering and talking to each other as well. Some cats came in to congratulate the happy couple. Mudsplotch decided to spend the night with his family. He wanted to be as close as possible.

Chapter 26

Half a moon later

Splashclaw had spent the whole day hunting and patrolling. He was curled up in his sleeping place with Gentlerain. He purred loudly. He didn't care if he woke up the other warriors. He loved Gentlerain, and she loved him. He didn't care about Spiderkit, Riverkit, Dappledkit, Nightkit, Vineflower, Tigerflower, Dawnriver, or Eveningbreeze. All he cared about was his newest mate, his truest mate. They would be having kits together. Many, many kits together. He didn't care about being clan leader anymore, or being deputy. He loved Gentlerain so much. He'd cross the world for her. Splashclaw snuggled deeper into her sweet smelling fur. The warmth from her radiating into him.
"Can we both get white cough so we can spend days together?" He whispered into her ear. She purred louder.
"No, sadly, we have duties. I would..." A yawn interrupted her, "I would if I could..." She purred drozily.

"I can take you off duties. After all, you are expecting," he purred. She snuggled closer to him.

"Hmm... That'd be nice. I could snuggle with you *all* day," she meowed dreamily.

"Would you two love birds be quiet! I'm trying to sleep!" A warrior yelled from across the den. Splashclaw sprung up, getting ready to pounce on whoever that was, but a soft tail on his side made him look back. He saw Gentlerain's sweet eyes looking up at him pleadingly. He softened, and curled up with her.

Fallingleaf entered the den, and snorted upon seeing Splashclaw and Gentlerain curled up togther. She stalked passed the two love birds, accidentally stepping on Gentlerain's tail. Gentlerain screeched in pain. Splashclaw shot up. *I'll kill her for hurting Gentlerain! Gentlerain wouldn't like that though. I'll just have to show my control and strength by pinning her, and warning her.* He thought in a heartbeat. Splashclaw sprang on Fallingleaf. He made a split second decision, and pushed his backside into hers. Fallingleaf squirmed beneath him.

"Don't ever hurt my mate again! Understand?" He growled, and just loud enough for Fallingleaf to hear, he whispered, "Or I'll kill our kits." Fallingleaf stopped squirming. She had realized what Splashclaw had done. He let her go, and sauntered back to his favorite mate.

"You were so brave!" Gentlerain meowed. "How in StarClan did you manage to control yourself?" Splashclaw smirked, and settled down again.

"I just thought of what you would have wanted me to do," he purred. *And what I wanted...* He purred in his head. *But when Gentlerain finds out, she'll be heartbroken! She'll think I don't love her! I wish I could take it all back, all of it, and just be mates with her!* He thought miserably. A voice echoed in his head, *Do you really want to take it all back?* He recognized it as Shadowriver. *Yes! Yes! Please! I'm sorry for killing you! I was greedy! I wanted all the she-cats to love me, and now that one really does, I want to take it all back! Please! You can help me, can't you?*

The Shadowriver responded, *Maybe,* but *you'll have to prove yourself. If you can let go of your egotistical ways, I'll reverse what has been done. Apologize to all the cats you've hurt. Nightkit was starting to be like you. Selfish, greedy, power-hungry, only wanted to make sure the she-cats loved him. Tigerflower will never love again. You've frosted her heart. Eveningbreeze won't ever trust another cat again once she finds out that you killed me for power. Her heart, to, will be frosted by the pain that you've given them. Fallingleaf will forever be afraid. Her carefree attitude is covered by frost like the early morning grass in leaf-bare. Leaf-bare doesn't happen here. It happens far away, so should the icy cold frost, but it seems to be happening here, in the hearts of you clan mates. Vineflower hasn't changed, but will if you continue you ways. She'll become a ruthless fighter, so will Spiderkit. Dapplekit will become the shy, frightened medicine cat apprentice, and Riverkit, the good humored cat who bullies the weaker ones. Dawnriver will become shy and afraid, and Bramblestar, your own father, will hate you for ever, and banish you form the clan. Even the love of you life, Gentlerain, will become harsh and cold. You see, you've done more damage than good. The only good thing you've done is bring the clan kits. Apologize, unfrost their hearts, and I'll reverse what has been done.*

Splashclaw's cheeks were damp with tears from sorrow and relief. *I'll do anything!*

Good, now go to sleep. You can fix things in the morning,

Shadowriver meowed. Splashclaw soon fell asleep. He would fix things in the morning.

Chapter 27

Mudsplotch stretched. He had just woken up. *Splashclaw's shaping up. Who would have thought. I hope Shadowriver can reverse it once Splashclaw has apologized. I want him to love happily with Gentlerain.* He climbed over to the nursery, grabbing some bird when went by the prey basket. The water had gone down, so it was a little harder to fish.

"I brought you your favorite, manikin!" He purred once he reached the nursery.

"Thank you! I'm starving! I couldn't leave these four alone. They might crawl out, and fall onto the hard ground," she meowed. Mudsplotched rubbed his head against hers. They watched as their four kits tussled. They had just opened their eyes.

"I'm Flowerstar! Leader of RiverClan! And you have trespassed on my territory, filthy monkeys!" Flowerkit yowled. Shadowkit sprang at her. Soon the others joined in. Mudsplotch soon left his mate and kits to go hunting. The clan was in such a good mood, they acted like kits.

"Race you to the mangrove tree!" Leaffall shouted to the rest of the hunting patrol. They raced there, and held a competition for who could catch the most prey. Ravenfeather won. The dragged their prey back, and the clan feasted. Everyone's spirits were up. The clan soon bedded, and only gentle breathing could be heard.

Sorry this is so short, but this book is almost done, and I've run out of ideas for Mudsplotch's world. I believe the last chapter will be the next or the one after that. Chapter thirty I think.

Chapter 28

Splashclaw woke up. He was snuggled deep into Gentlerain's fur. Her warmth became his warmth, and his became hers. He gently got up, not wanting to wake his sleeping mate. He had duties to perform. He shook himself, and quickly bathed himself. He went over to Fallingleaf, and gently shook her awake. Her eyes got round and scared when she saw him.

"It's alright, I didn't come her to hurt you. I wanted to apologize for what I did. It was wrong. You didn't mean to hurt Gentlerain. It was an accident. I know that now. I should never have made you expect. It was the wrong decision. I'm so sorry. I don't know why I was like that. StarClan came to me, and I'm a different cat now. I hope you can forgive me," he whispered. He didn't want to wake the sleeping cats. Fallingleaf's eyes flashed in forgiveness. Splashclaw blinked, and when he opened his eyes, Fallingleaf was looking at him with a puzzled expression.

"Why did you wake me up? Is it time for patrols? Did I over sleep?" She meowed. Her tone got more anxious and worried at the end.

"No-" he started, but was interrupted by Shadowriver's voice in his head. *She has forgotten. She no longer carries kits.* Splashclaw suddenly realized what Shadowriver had done. *Thank you, thank you, thank you!* He thought, directing that at Shadowriver. He could hear the StarClan cat laugh. His eyes wandered back to the she-cat in front of him. She was looking at him impatiently.

"Sorry, I got lost in thought," he lied. "I want you to take a patrol, and check the border." She nodded, and grabbed her closest friends. Snaketooth was snoring loudly. Splashclaw shook him awake. Snaketooth's eyes filled with hatred.

"I wanted to say sorry for taking away your mate. I was selfish, rude, and a snakeheart. I hope you can forgive me. I was a different person then," he meowed to the angered tom. Snaketooth's eyes went blank.

"What did you want me to do? Sorry, I forgot," he meowed. *Thank you, Shadowriver!*

"I want you to join Fallingleaf's patrol. She just left." Snaketooth

nodded, and left. *Dawnriver, Tigerflower, Eveningbreeze, and Vineflower. Also Bramblestar and Sootsplash. Oh! Caymantooth! I almost forgot how rude I was to him. He must be in here...* Splashclaw thought while looking around the warriors den. He padded up to his old mentor.

"I'm sorry for being such a snakeheart to you. You were a great mentor to me," Splashclaw apologized to the older tom. His meowing making him wake up.

"Sorry, what was that?" Caymantooth meowed groggily.

"Just want you to take a patrol hunting. The birds are awful noisy today," Splashclaw meowed.

"Sure thing," Caymantooth meowed, and padded over to some warriors to wake them up. Sootsplash was lying next to Splashclaw. She was twitching in her sleep.

"I'm sorry for being rude to you. I think your a great mother," his mother stirred, and woke up after her son apologized.

"Wha?" She mumbled, shaking the sleep from her brain.

"Shouldn't you move to the nursery soon? You belly is starting to look a little plumb," Splashclaw purred, looking at his mother's swollen belly.

"Yeah," she purred embarrassedly.

"I'll take you off duties," Splashclaw purred. He padded away to find Tigerflower. She was eating alone, looking miserable.

"Hey, I'm sorry for abusing your love for me. It was unfair. I'm sorry for never liking you back. I was a snakeheart," he sighed. Tigerflower's eyes filled with pain, then went blank. Spiderkit and Dapplekit faded away. They left a very confused Nightkit and Riverkit.

"Could you lead a hunting patrol?" Tigerflower nodded at her past mates meow. Dawnriver was huddled around her bugling belly. Splashclaw ran over to her.

"I'm so sorry for abusing you! I know you and Snaketooth are meant to be. I was a snakehearted beetle-brain! I hope you and him can still be together," Splashclaw meowed. Her belly visibly shrunk, and her eyes went blank. Her eyes cleared, and she starred at him with a puzzled expression.

"Snaketooth really likes you. You and him would be perfect together," Splashclaw purred. Dawnriver's eyes lit up, and she ran to go find him. *Eveningbreeze and Vineflower.* He ran into the nursery.

"I'm sorry for killing your mate, Eveningbreeze, and I'm sorry for

making you be my mate. I'm sorry for letting you think I like you, Vineflower. You and I should have never happened," he meowed upon going in the nursery. The two she-cats looked angry, then they had a blank expression, and then their eyes looked very confused.

"Why are we in here," they meowed in unison.

"I don't know. That's what I came to find out," Splashclaw laughed. The two she-cats left. Splashclaw looked for his kits, and found none. They had gone as well. He padded up to his father.

"I'm sorry for killing your deputy, and being a terrible son," he meowed. His father's eyes flashed shock, then went blank.

"What was that again?" Bramblestar meowed.

"Just wanted to tell you that patrols for this morning have been asigned," Splashclaw meowed. He padded off, and suddenly felt exausted. He stumbled into the warriors den. Splashclaw fell as soon as he went in, and as soon as his head touched the moss, he was asleep.

Chapter 29

Mudsplotch stretched. He could hear the mewling of his kits. He felt his brother stir beside him. *My brother! I never had a brother?* He turned to see who was by him. His mouth fell open.
"Sp...Sp...Splashclaw!" He yelped. Splashclaw stirred, and opened one eye.
"Yes- holy StarClan! What in the name of StarClan is going on? I thought we..." Splashclaw yelped back.
"Yeah..." Mudsplotch meowed, catching Splashclaw's drift. "How?" Splashclaw shook his head in bafflement.
"Let's ask around, but we can't give off that us being together is strange, unless they don't know one of us," Splashclaw meowed, Mudsplotch nodded in agreement. The two brothers walked out.
"Hey, Splashclaw and Mudsplotch... or is it Mudsplotch and Splashclaw?" Leaffall meowed. Leaffall's face was obviously confused. Since Splashclaw and Mudsplotch were the same cat for awhile, they looked identical. Splashclaw laughed.
"You'll never know," he teased, and to Mudsplotch he added, "I could get use to this." Leaffall left, baffled. Mudsplotch roughly nudged his brother.
"You shouldn't trick them!" He whispered to Splashclaw.
"But it's fun," Splashclaw pleaded. Mudsplotch snorted.
"It makes then very confused! You shouldn't do that!" He scolded. Splashclaw's ears went down in mock embarrassment, and he playfully sprang at his brother. The tussled on the branch.
"Good job Splashclaw! You've won again," Mudsplotch's mentor, Scalefur, called out.
"I'm Splashclaw, he's Mudsplotch!" The indignant Splashclaw, who lost and was on the bottom, meowed. Scalefur laughed.
"Whoops! Sorry, everybody, even your mother, gets you two confused!" He giggled. The two brothers both smiled, and Mudsplotch got off Splashclaw. Bramblestar called Splashclaw to his den. He wanted his son to be the next deputy. He'd give him one of his brother's and Tigerflower's kits. Splashclaw said yes.
"Let all cats old enough to climb gather beneath me to hear what I have to say," Bramblestar meowed. The clan soon gathered. "Our

deputy, Shadowriver, had served us well. It is time for him to retire, and for us to appoint a new deputy. Splashclaw has been chosen by myself and Shadowriver to be the next deputy, and hopefully leader. That is highly probable since I am on my last life," the aging leader meowed. The clan cheered the new and old deputys' names, and cried out their leader's, even though their sorrow won't bring back his lives.

"Splashclaw will finish assigning patrols," Shadowriver meowed, his voice shaking and his muzzle grey. Mudsplotch had never realized how old the deputy was, and his father. Shadowriver retired his sleeping area. RiverClan didn't have an elders den, so the retired warriors still slept in the warriors den. Bramblestar went to go rest in his den, and Splashclaw went to go assign patrols. Tigerflower signaled for Mudsplotch to join her.

"Have you eaten yet?" She asked, rubbing her head against his.

"No," he purred. "We could share, if you want."

"I'd like that," she purred back, so the two shared a bird, which Mudsplotch brought. They talked, chatting about their kits, Gentlerain and Splashclaw, and other things in the clan's life. He soon had to hunt. By the time he got back with a few birds, it was already darkening. He flopped down in his sleeping place, and was soon sound asleep.

Chapter 30

Two moons later

Splashclaw paced outside the nursery. His mate was kitting, and it didn't sound like it was going well. He could hear her screeching in pain, and desperately wanted to go in. He could sense her agony. Every since they had become mates, they could feel each others emotions. They were so closely bonded that it was possible to sense the other cat and their emotions. (Sometimes really close twins can do this).

Splashclaw could smell blood, and he didn't like it. Gentlerain screeched so loudly it made his ears hurt. He couldn't stand it any longer, and barged in. Gentlerain was lying on her side, and Pebblefrost was at her backside. She had a kit by her belly, and was biting into a stick. A pile of splinters lay next to her. He ran up to her.

"Gentlerain!" He yelped as he saw that the leaves around them were covered in blood. She groaned, and screeched.

"Pebblefrost!" He yowled. "Do something!"

"I'm trying," the medicine cat meowed shakily. "Take the pile of twigs out, and get a tough stick." Splashclaw hesitated.

"What if she..." He started, trailing off at the end.

"No, I won't let that happen. Now go!" The medicine cat meowed confidently, yet his voice wavered, and his eyes flashed in disbelief. Splashclaw grabbed the pile of sticks and ran out. He jumped down the tree, landing on branches then jumping again. This was the fastest way down. He threw the splinters away, and grabbed the biggest, sturdiest stick that could fit in his mates mouth.

Splashclaw climbed back up he tree as fast as he could. Pebblefrost told him to out the stick in Gentlerain's mouth, and he obeyed. She bit down on the stick. Another kit was lying beside her. Time passed, and only one more kit lay beside her. Gentlerain was slipping into unconsciousness.

"Gentlerain, don't leave me. Think of our kits. Think of me. What would we do without you. Please stay here. We need you," he whispered it his mate. His tears splashing onto her fur.

"You do?" Came a faint meow. Gentlerain's voice was hoarse, and barely audible.

"Yes! Yes! Stay here! We need you! Who would take care if our kits if you left us. There is only Tigerflower, and her milk has long since dried up. Without your milk and warmth our kits would surely die. Without you *I'd* die! I couldn't live without you! Please, stay with us," he cried. Gentlerain's eyes flickered open, and she whispered,

"For you, my love, and our kits," a gave a large push when a ripple spread through her. She screamed again. Splashclaw ran out to go get another stick, hers was splintering. She quickly splintered the new stick her brought. He was about to get another when Pebblefrost stopped him.

"She's done. You have four healthy kits," he meowed. Splashclaw could see the worry in his eyes.

"She's not going to see their apprenticeship, is she?" Splashclaw cried softly. Pebblefrost shook his head.

"Most likely, no. I'm sorry, there's nothing more I can do," he murmured. Splashclaw let out a short cry, and ran over to his mate.

"Don't leave me. Don't leave me. Please," he cried softly, burying his head in her soft fur.

"I'll try," she whispered. He felt her breath starting to slow.

"No, no, no," he cried softly. He breath was coming in short and shallow rasps. Splashclaw eventually fell asleep, curled tightly around his kits and mate. As Gentlerain drew a short breath, and Bramblestar drew his last. Gentlerain's breath become deeper and slightly faster. Bramblestar knew Gentlerain was dying, so he gave his last life to her.

Epilogue

Gentlerain was walking again, she had been to weak to walk after kitting, and Splashstar was always by her side. Tigerflower's kits were training hard. They were now apprentices. The clan was happy, and Mudsplotch had gotten use to ordering cats around. Splashstar had made him deputy. Tigerflower's second litter was one the way, and Rainkit, Duskkit, Shadowkit, and Waterkit (Gentlerain's kits) were excited to have new denmates. Everything was going well, and the rains were coming again. The monkeys stayed quiet, and the jaguars stayed away. Clan life was perfect.

Author's Note

Thank you for reading! I hope you liked it, and have a great day!

Thanks to *Pebblescar's Reality* for inspiring this book!

Wattpad

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